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The Crops, The Educational Work, etc., in Cleveland County.

Messrs. Editors: Since I contributed anything to your columns, a sooth-sayer and prophet, wiser in his day and generation than the groundhog, arose and predicted a very wet season by reason of thirteen new moons. But in this region we are dry as a powder house. Corn, on uplands, is twisting and turning yellow; a wail goeth up from the daughters of men by reason of the parched gardens; but the moon prophet, the frog, the snake, the fog, the treetoad, the sand hill crane prophet, and others who are wise as serpents in forecasting the weather, continue to publish their forecasts with the solemn faith and assurance of the Seventh Day Adventist foretelling the end of time.

With the moon votaries, no man dares to cut wood, kill hogs, plant corn or make soap till he consults the "alminick," and sees that the moon is of the proper size and shape.

The sand-hill crane is weatherwise, and when he files up stream you can put on your storm coat and hoist your umbrella. Last week one of these long-necked fowls flew up Hinton's Creek, and was pronounced as having a very judicial and weatherwise cast of countenance. The skeptical were duly warned, but the rain came not. Another delivered his auracular opinion that on June 15, 1905, we might look for floods on the dry ground, for he "seed" a fog on March 15, and that was official.

The day appointed was conspicuous for a brazen sky and high northeast winds. Still another had "seed" a sun dog; an unclassified specimen not found in the lore of the Brushy Creek nor Polkville dog syndicates. This had been a harbinger of rain ever since navigator Noah had his attention called to the rainbow, and bore the stamp of infallibility. Still no rain. Another had heard the treetoad twanging his harp, but dry weather prevailed. The last and most authoritative in the list, is a preacher whose fleeting life has spanned 84 wheat harvests. As regularly as the migrations of the Wandering Jew, he has, annually, therefore oftener than the visits of this peripatetic being of tradition, foretold in every May that this was going to be a dry year like '45. He says mankind has departed from the counsels of Jehovah, by following the vain pomp and glory of the world.

He regards all desire for amusement, pursuit of knowledge, or enjoyment in this world, as ungodly levity. He continually predicts that the Lord will rise in vengeance, and then it follows, he and others pure in heart shall be the saints to sit in judgment.

It seems that the farmers and the weather together, have advanced the price of cotton. I have been righteously rebuked for my part in organizing the farmers, but maybe my time will come to laugh yet. A man who is in bad odor among ringsters and their puerile satellites, and among professional office-seekers and their despicable incense burners, should thank God and take courage; for he is not far from the kingdom

The history of all improvements and reforms, is that they are projected by dauntless spirits despised in their day and generation. Later, when the pioneer has swung popular sentiment into line, the irrepressible office-seeker mounts the band wagon and proclaims with megaphonic eloonence: "Behold I, even I, did all this." The cause of education has had the press in its favor, also such men as Governor Aycock and Mr. McIver as its champions.

But much of the real work has been done by obscure teachers, who

had no rings in their noses nor collars on their necks. Working for a beggarly stipend, they were ridiculed, traduced and reviled by cliques and trusts, but they have their reward in seeing conditions brighten. Cleveland County is nobly coming to the scratch, but it took agitation, and later, voting.

We have a three weeks' term of Teacher's Institute this time, and the written pledge that the law will be carried out as to continuous attendance of teachers. So mote it be. CORN CRACKER.

Cleveland Co., N. C.

Ouery and Answer About Pasture-Making.

Messrs. Editors: I have some good bottom lands that I have cut the oats and want to sow in peas, and would like for you to tell me what I can plant with the peas that will make me a good winter and spring pasture for hogs and cattle. Tell me in your next issue of The Progressive Farmer. I want to try some alfalfa and rane in September. I want to make a permanent pasture of this land, but want to sow something that will not be hard to get rid of, or that will scatter over my farm. I want to plant a small plot in Bermuda grass; that is fine; I have seen lots of that in Georgia and Florida, and it makes a fine nasture. I don't know if it will go to seed here or not.

J. HENRY WOOTEN.

(Answer by Dr. C. W. Burkett, Professor of Agriculture, A. & M. College.)

In answer to our correspondent's inquiries, it seems it would be best to seed nothing in connection with the cow-peas, unless he waits until late in the fall to sow clover in the standing vines. To sow any kind of grass with the peas would mean almost sure failure, since the peas are rank and quick in growth.

Why not put the land to peas and cut for hay? Then as soon as off put a section to alfalfa, another to rape, and the remainder to rye and clover for winter and spring pasture.

Bermuda is excellent for a permanent pasture; in fact, nothing is better. But Bermuda is planted best now or in the spring.

C. W. BURKETT.

Grand Lecturer N. C. F. P. A.

Prof. J. M. Sharp, of Intelligence Grand Lecturer of N. C. Farmers' Protective Association, will go and speak to the farmers of any section of the State on the principles of the organization, if desired. If interested in this work communcate with him. Any information possible will be gladly given.

Good Crop in Iredell.

Our crops are in good shape at present. Cotton looking fairly good. Corn coming on in good shape. Wheat nearly all cut, and pretty good; not a full crop. Oats and rye very good. Hands plenty at present. P. W. EAGLE.

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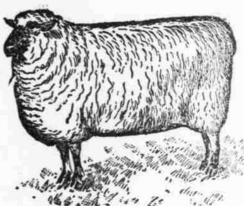
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